



2013 Deer Trustee Report

Public Action Team Implementation Proposal

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Action Team: Science/Research	Population Management A.2.
<input type="checkbox"/> Draft <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Submitted	Deer Trustee Report Page 24

This document shows the original Deer Trustee Report recommendation that the Public Action Team considered when developing proposals for implementing the recommendation in Wisconsin. The Public Action Team's implementation proposal is presented then followed by additional background information.

I. ORIGINAL DEER TRUSTEE REPORT RECOMMENDATION

A.2. Do away with population goals and population estimates at the DMU level. This recommendation is particularly relevant in the Eastern and Western Farmland Regions where WDNR has limited or no ability to increase harvest on private lands and thus cannot manage for population goals as currently defined. Population goals have become meaningless numbers and population estimates cannot be defended from a statistical standpoint. The constant argument about annual estimates of deer numbers is pointless with only negative consequences in terms of WDNR credibility. DMAP and WDACP may present opportunities to increase antlerless harvest at the local scale. Antlerless harvest goals and permit quotas should be based on historical harvest, historical demand for antlerless permits and the desired status of population size change.

II. PUBLIC ACTION TEAM PROPOSAL FOR IMPLEMENTING THE ABOVE RECOMMENDATION

Below is the Public Action Team implementation proposal along with their rationale and supporting evidence, potential implementation obstacles and consideration of the proposal's potential impact on the overall deer management in Wisconsin.

1. Action Team Implementation Proposal:

- The team supports retaining population goals and estimates but encourages developing additional metrics for monitoring deer populations and impacts, evaluating unit goals at the time of 3-year unit reviews.
- Include valid local input as an additional factor to consider in goal setting.

2. Supporting data, references, rationale and other information behind it.

- Population estimates and goals are needed for decision making for proper management of the deer herd.
- There is strong value in quantitative statements.
- Population estimates limit controversy by placing limits.

3. Consider and describe potential implementation obstacles or drawbacks.

- Continued controversy about estimates and goal.
- Research may be insufficient to justify goals and objectives.

4. Overall, how will this proposal simplify or complicate deer hunting, management, or research in Wisconsin.

- The proposal to keep population goals and estimates will have a neutral effect on hunting, management, and research.